

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 16-27 and 29-33 are allowed.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to teach or to fairly suggest an apparatus for retaining an acoustic device comprising :

a trim panel and an attachment member,

wherein the attachment member includes at least one mounting portion,

and wherein the at least one mounting portion is constructed so as to include:

a first end and second end;

a side surface between the first end and the second end;

a ledge surface between the first and second end and which extends in a perpendicular orientation from the side surface, and

wherein the side surface includes a ramping and increasing height such that the first end of the mounting portion is at a greater height than the second end of the mounting portion.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Thompson (US 4,326,599) teaches a speaker retained with ramping parts ("25" in figure 1).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DIONNE H. PENDLETON whose telephone number is (571)272-7497. The examiner can normally be reached on 10:30-7:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wayne Young can be reached on 571-272-7582. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Dionne H Pendleton/
Examiner, Art Unit 2627

/Wayne Young/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2627